

(b) (3) - P.L. 86-36

*** Document 9 of 13 for CUST ***

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DE DE 4126A 0850625 ZKZK PP DE P 250624Z

PPER (412) INVALID OR BADLY FORMATTED DATA IN "DE" PARAGRAPH.

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CLAS SECRET SAVIN SECTION ONE OF THREE LAOTIAN XMMFNP01-9125038

SERI : 24 C09-68

SUBJ ENEMY ACTIVITY IN 2 MILITAR REGION INCLUDING ATTACKS
 TEXT ON THA THOM, SALA DENE DINE PASS AND PHOU PHA THI SECTOR
 DURING THE PERIOD 17TH FEBRUARQ TO 19TH MARCH 1968. XCC
 1. INTRODUCTION THIS REPORT REVIEWS ENEMY ACTIVITY IN 2
 MILITARQ REGION ((2 MR)) INCLUDING THE ATTACK AND OCCUPATION
 OF THA THOM (()) AND SALA DENE DINE PASS (())
 IN SOUTHERN 2 MR ON 21ST AND 25TH FEBRUARE RESPECTIVELY,
 AND THE SERIES OF ATTACKS IN PHOU PHA THI SECTOR CULMINATING
 IN THE LOSS OF THE RADAR SITE AT PHA THI ON 10TH MARCH 1968.
 2. THE REPORT SHOULD BE READ IP CONJUNCTION WITH 24 C07-68
 OF 1 MARCH 1968. THE REPORT IS COMPILED FROM MESSAGES INTERCEPTED
 OVER RLA COMMUNICATIONS DURING THE PERIOD 17TH FEBRUAR TO
 19TH MARCH 1968. II. SUMMARQ ENEMY ACTIVITY IN THA THOM
 - SALA DENE DINE SECTORS FROM 21ST FEBRUARQ TO 13TH MARCH.
 3. THE FALL AND OCCUPATION OF THA THOM (()) BY THREE
 ENEMY BATTALIONS, ON 21ST FEBRUARQ, AND THE INCREASE OF
 ENEMY PRESSURE ALONG THE ROUTE LEADING TO AND EVENTUALLY
 AT SALA DENE DINE PASS (()), WAS REPORTED IN A SERIES
 OF RLA COMMUNICATIONS DURING THIS PERIOD. 4. LATE ON 21ST
 FEBRUARQ BV 23 AND ADC TROOPS RETREATED FROM THA THOM TOWARDS
 SALA DENE DINE. FROM 21ST FEBRUARQ ENEMY MORTAR FIRE AND
 ONE WEAK BATTALION WERE REPORTEDLY HARRASSING 3RD COMPANY
 21BI AT SALA DENE DINE (()) LOCATED 13 KMS SOUTH-EAST
 OF THA THOM ON ROUTE 4 LEADING TO PAKSANE)). GM17 IN RESPONSE
 TO THE CRITICAL SITUATION ORDERED A 24 HOURS ALERT AND REDOUBLED
 VIGILANCE OF BRIDGES AND FERRQ CROSSINGS BY ALL TROOPS ALONG
 THE ROUTES FROM PAKSANE TO VIENTIANE. 5. THE DETERIORATING
 SITUATION AT SALA DENE DINE CULMINATED IN ENEMY TROOPS CAPTURING
 THE POSITION FOLLOWING A STRONG ATTACK LATE ON 25TH FEBRUAR.
 THIRTY TROOPS 3RD COMPANY 21BI LEFT AT THE POSITION WERE
 ATTEMPTING TO MEET WITH THE COMMAND POST 21BI WHICH, TWO
 DAYS LATER WAS REPORTED AT PHOU TINH PIT (()) 6.
 FROM 22ND FEBRUARQ RLA REINFORCEMENTS WERE MOVED TO THE
 AREA SOUTH OF SALA DENE DINE AND ON 27TH FEBRUAR 12TH BATTER
 WITH 105 MM GUNS MOVED TO REINFORCE PAKSANE, AND THEN FURTHER
 WEST TO MUONG KAO (()). HQ 5 MR ALSO ORDERED TROOPS
 OF 12 BI TO PROTECT ROUTE 13 BETWEEN BAN THA BOK (())
 AND PAKSANE. 7. FROM 23RD TO 29TH FEBRUAR, ENEMY ACTIVITY
 IN THA THOM - SALA DENE DINE AREAS INCLUDED THE ATTACK AND
 OCCUPATION OF PHOU MOUNE (()) SITUATED 16 KMS WEST
 OF SALA DENE DINE)) ON 24TH FEBRUARQ. THE MOVEMENT OF ENEMY
 FORCES FURTHER SOUTH TO MUONG BO (()) AND A BATTALION
 SITUATED ALONG THE NAM SANE RIVER TO BAN NGIOU NHAY (())
))). REPORTS OF RLA REFUGEES FROM MUONG HEUANG (())
 MUONG BO (()) AND MUONG KAO (()) ARRIVING
 AT PAKSANE, CONTINUED FROM 23RD FEBRUARQ. BV 23 TROOPS WERE
 TO BE TRANSPORTED FROM PAKSANE TO SAM THONG. 8. ON 27TH
 FEBRUARE, AN RLA UNIT IN THA THOM AREA ADVISED THAT THE
 SECTOR WAS STILL UNDER HEAVY ARTILLERQ ATTACK. A MESSAGE
 OF 28TH FEBRUARQ REPORTED THAT ENEMY INTENTIONS IN THE AREA
 WERE TO MOVE SOUTH ALONG THE NAM SANE VALLEY, SITUATED SOUTH-EAST
 OF SALA DENE DINE, WEST TOWARD PHOU MOUNE AND MUONG BO,
 AND SOUTH TOWARD SALA DENE DINE, THE LAST THREE POSITIONS
 HAVING BEEN ATTACKED WITHIN THE PREVIOUS FOUR DAYS. XHH
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Approved for release by NSA on 07-21-2014, Transparency Case# 65886

(b) (1)
 (b) (3) - 50 USC 403
 (b) (3) - 18 USC 798
 (b) (3) - P.L. 86-36

(b) (3)-P.L. 86-36

*** Document 8 of 13 for CUST ***

DOCN 000063005

DE DE PP DE 4126B 0850625 ZKZK PP

PPFR (412) INVALID OR BADLY FORMATTED DATA IN "DE" PARAGRAPH.

DE P 250624Z

FM FM
TO TO

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CLAS C E P E T SAVIN SECTION TWO OF THREE LAOTIAN XMMENP2-9125038

SERI 2 1C09-68

SUBJ 25 MAR 68.

TEXT ENEMY ACTIVITY IN 2 MILITARY REGION INCLUDING ATTACKS

ON THA THOM, SALA DENE DINE PASS AND PHO PHA THI SECTOR

DURING THE PERIOD 17TH FEBRUARY TO 19TH MARCH 1968. XCC

9. DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF MARCH THE DEFENCE OF PAKSANE

CONTINUED WITH BATTALION COMMAND COMPANY 12 BI MOVING TO

THA BOK (()) ON 2ND MARCH. ONE COMPANY 12 BI MOVING

FROM PAKSANE TO MUONG KAO (()) AND MUONG HUANG (())

AND 3RD COMPANY 21 BI AT PHOU TINE PAT (())

10. NORTH OF THA THOM DURING EARLY MARCH ENEMY ACTIVITY

INCLUDED ATTACKS ON AC ZONE 4/B POSITIONS AT (()) AND

(()) AND THE REPORTED LOCATION OF 24 PATHET LAO ((PL))

BATTALION AND 2 PL BATTALION. ENEMY ACTIVITY IN PHOE PHA

THI SECTOR FROM 20TH FEBRUARY TO 19TH MARCH. 11. ON 23RD

FEBRUARY A MEETING OF ENEMY MILITARY AND CIVILIAN AUTHORITIES

AT (()) FORMULATED A SERIES OF ENEMY OBJECTIVES INCLUDING

THE RECRUITMENT OF YOUNG MEN IN THE AREA, BLOCKING RLA TROOPS

INTO THEIR ZONES OF OCCUPATION AND THE PROVISION OF FOOD

AND MATERIALS FOR PL TROOPS BY THE LOCAL POPULATION. 12.

THE MOVEMENT OF ENEMY TROOPS INTO PHOU PAH THI SECTOR WAS

REPORTED DURING THE LAST WEEK OF FEBRUARY AND INCLUDED A

COMBINED PATHET LAO/NORTH VIETNAMESE ((PNV)) BATTALION,

WHICH MOVED FROM SAM NEUA TO (()) ON 24TH

FEBRUARY. AIR STRIKES ON FOUR ENEMY POSITIONS EXTENDING WITHIN

5 KMS EAST OF PHOU PHA THI, ONE PN ((PNV)) BATTALION NEAR

NHOT PHAT (()) ONE NV ((NVN)) BATTALION AT (())

AND THE MOVEMENT OF PL 14 BATTALION ON 28TH FEBRUARY TO

A POSITION 14 KMS NORTH EAST OF PHOU PHA THI. ON 28TH FEBRUARY

AIR STRIKES WERE DIRECTED AT ENEMY TROOPS AT PHA HANG (())

AND PL 705 BATTALION AND PL 615 BATTALION AT (())

RESPECTIVELY. ON 1ST MARCH PL 613 BATTALION

AND PL 585 BATTALION WERE REPORTED AT BAN TALOK (())

13. DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF MARCH, ENEMY ATTACKS WERE MADE

ON AC ZONE 12/A SITUATED WEST OF PHOU PHA THI AT PHOU CHE

(()) ON 2ND MARCH ON 8TH MARCH AT A POSITION SOUTH-EAST

OF PHA THI AT PHA VE (()) WHERE 31 RLA TROOPS WERE

CAPTURED AND ON THE SAME DAY, 9 KMS FURTHER EAST AT (())

WHERE AC ZONE 13 POSITION WAS OCCUPIED BY 300 ENEMY TROOPS.

14. ENEMY BATTALIONS WERE REPORTED TO BE MOVING IN TO BEGIN

THE SERIES OF ATTACKS IN PHOU PHA THI SECTOR ON 10TH MARCH,

AND WERE LOCATED NEAR PHA BONG (()) PHOU CHE (())

ELLN HOUET MA (()) AND FOUR OTHER POSITIONS IN

THE SECTOR. 15. ON 7TH MARCH APPROXIMATELY TWO ENEMY COMPANIES

ATTACKED CV274 POSITIONS AT PHOU CHE (()) SITUATED

24 KMS WEST OF PHOU PHA THI AND ALSO THREATENED THE AIRSTRIP,

LIMA SITE 185, AT (()) ON 10TH MARCH ONE PL BATTALION

REPORTEDLY MOVED FROM MUONG KAO (()) TO A POSITION

2 KMS NORTH OF PHOU CHE AND, LATER THAT DAY, COMMANDER BV

27 ((MAJOR DOUANG TA)) ADVISED THAT CV 274 WAS UNABLE TO

HOLD THE POSITION. HOWEVER LT-COL PHANH ((COMMANDER BV 26))

ORDERED THAT PHOU CHE BE MAINTAINED AS A REGROUPING POINT

FOR RLA TROOPS WITHDRAWING FROM HOUET HIN SA (())

16. A SECOND HEAVY ENEMY ATTACK AT PHOU CHE OCCURRED ON 13TH

MARCH AND CV 274 AND AC ZONE 12/A TROOPS DISPERSED AND COMMUNICA-

TIONS WERE LOST WITH THE POSITION. XHH 700

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(b) (1)

(b) (3)-50 USC 403

(b) (3)-18 USC 798

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*** Document 7 of 13 for CUST ***

DOCN 000062456

DE DE 4126C 0850625 ZKZK PP DE P 250624Z
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TOZEM
CLAS S E C R E T SAVIN FINAL SECTION OF THREE LAOTIAN XMMENP03F9125038
SERI: 24 009-68

SUBJ 25 MAR 68.
TEXT ENEMY ACTIVITY IN 2 MILITAR REGION INCLUDING ATTACKS
ON THA THOM, SALA DENE DINE PASS AND PHOU PHA THI SECTOR
DURING THE PERIOD 17TH FEBRUARY TO 19TH MARCH 1968. XCC
17. ON 9TH MARCH ENEMY TROOPS, ACCORDING TO AN ENEMY RADIO
REPORT, SUFFERED "47" MEN KILLED FOLLOWING AN RLA F ATTACK
AT PHA BONG (0 LIMA SITE 76)). 18. ON 10TH MARCH
TWO ENEMY BATTALIONS ATTACKED AND OCCUPIED BAN BANO (0
SITUATED 1 KM SOUTH-WEST OF PHOU PHA THI)) AND ANOTHER POSITION
AT HOU EI MA (0) WAS ALSO HEAVILY ATTACKED
ON THE SAME DAY BY 300 ENEMY TROOPS. 19. IN CONJUNCTION
WITH THESE ENEMY MOVEMENTS THE OFFENSIVE ON PHOU PHA THI
HAD BEGUN EARLY ON 10TH MARCH WHEN IT WAS REPORTED THAT
"THERE IS NO TIME TO GO BECAUSE THE ENEMY IS ASCENDING THE
HEAD OF THE MOUNTAIN". LT-COL PHANH ((COMMANDER BV26)) REPORTED
THAT 300 ENEMY TROOPS ATTACKED PHOU PHA THI AND THAT A TOTAL
OF -10 ENEMY BATTALIONS" WERE DEPLOYED IN THE AREA. THE
FINAL ASSAULT AND CAPTURE OF THE RADAR SITE OCCURRED AT
0500 HOURS ON 11TH MARCH. THE SITE WAS DESCRIBED: 06 - , ,)#/
043: /PROPAGANDA FACILITY TO HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED BY AMERICAN
SPECIAL FORCES AND WORKED BY U.S. ADVISERS AND LAOTIAN TROOPS,
IN ORDER TO GUIDE "RLA AIRCRAFT ATTACKING THE SURROUNDING
AREA". RADIO CONTACT WAS LOST AT 1130 HOURS FOLLOWING THE
WITHDRAWAL OF THE RLA TROOPS TO JOIN WITH OPERATION HQ PHOU/PHA
THI AT THE BASE OF THE MOUNTAIN. 20. H34 ((HELICOPTERS))
WERE REQUESTED TO ASSIST IN EVACUATION OF RLA TROOPS FROM
THE "CRITICAL" AREA. ON 13TH MARCH 915 TROOPS WERE AT HOU EI
HIN SA (0) AND OPERATION HQ PHOU PHA THI REPORTED
THAT THE POSITION WAS LIKELY TO FALL "IN A SHORT TIME".
HOWEVER 826 TROOPS AND ALL WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT HAD STILL
NOT BEEN ACCOUNTED FOR. ON 19TH MARCH OPERATION HQ PHOU
PHA THI, BS201, BS209, AC ZONE 12/A AND AC ZONE 13 ARRIVED
AT MUONG KOUT (0, LOCATED 38 KMS SOUTHWEST OF PHOU
PHA THI)) AND WERE THEN DEPLOYED ON DEFENSIVE POSITIONS
WEST AND SOUTH OF MUONG KOUT. 21. REPORTS OF RLA AND AMERICAN
CASUALTIES AT PHOU PHA THI VARIED FROM A RLA MESSAGE THAT
TWO TROOPS WERE KILLED AND 37 WOUNDED, OF WHICH 32 WERE
LAOTIAN AND 5 AMERICAN, TO A NLHX PRESS/PROPAGANDA FACILITY
MESSAGE WHICH REPORTED 167 CASUALTIES AMONG WHICH WERE "ALMOST
20 AMERICAN ADVISORS". 22. ON NIGHT 12TH MARCH AC ZONE/13
AT HOU EI KHAM MOUN LS111, (0, LOCATED 9 KMS NORTH
OF PHOU PHA THI)) WAS ATTACKED AND OCCUPIED. 23. ON 18TH
MARCH 37 PL ENGINEER BATTALION WAS REPORTED TO HAVE MOVED
50 KMS. TO A NEW POSITION NEAR UH7441 LOCATED 24 KMS NORTH
EAST OF HOA MUONG (0). 24. ENEMY TROOPS CLAIMED
ON 17TH MARCH TO HAVE SHOT DOWN TWO USF 105 JET AIRCRAFT
AND ONE U.S. AD 6 AIRCRAFT BY PL AIR DEFENCE UNITS, DURING
AN ATTACK ON SAM NEUA. 25. THE LOSS OF BAN HOU EI SA (0,
SITUATED 12 KMS SOUTH WEST OF MUONG KOUT)) WAS REPORTED
ON 19 MARCH. DURING AN OVERFLIGHT BY HELICOPTER THE FOLLOWING
DAY, COMMANDER CV 261 ((CAPTAIN KIA TOUVANG)) WAS KILLED
WHEN THE HELICOPTER WAS SHOT DOWN, III. DETAILS. FULL DETAILS
OF THIS REPORT WILL BE FOUND IN THE HARD COPY EDITION UNDER
THE SAME REFERENCE NUMBER. XHH 895 895
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(b) (1)
(b) (3)-50 USC 403
(b) (3)-18 USC 798
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